

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Dee C. Hansen Executive Director Joission Director Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340

July 9, 1991

Mr. Larry Drew
Environmental Coordinator
Hecla Mining Company
6500 Mineral Drive
Box C-8000
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814-1931

Dear Mr. Drew:

Re: <u>Tailings Pond Reclamation</u>, <u>Escalante Mine</u>, <u>Hecla Mining Company</u>, <u>M/021/004</u>, <u>Iron County</u>, <u>Utah</u>

Thank you for your July 3, 1991 call concerning your receipt of our April 29, 1991 conditional approval document, which addresses the tailings pond reclamation. You indicated that you had received the review letter, but had not yet been able to act on it. You indicated that the reclamation will probably be delayed beyond the fall of 1991, because of the present disagreement between Hecla and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality (DWQ) regarding the acquisition of a Groundwater Discharge Permit.

The Division would like to schedule a meeting between Hecla, ourselves, the DWQ and the BLM as soon as possible to discuss the reclamation plan and its timely execution. Please contact this office by July 30, 1991, to arrange a convenient time and place for this meeting. We would be happy to coordinate schedules with the other regulatory agencies in this regard.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg

Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

jb

cc: Doug Bauer, BLM, Utah State Office

Paul Carter, BLM Don Ostler, DWQ

Arthur L. Tait, BLM, Beaver River RA

Lowell Braxton, DOGM